PROTECTION.—(PRISONS.)

(No. 96.)

SUBJECT No. 96.

Training of convicts.

Messrs. Ramachandra Rao Sindhe and K. B. Puttappa, Mysore Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Ramachandra Rao Sindhe.—It is better if convicts are taught some profession to prevent them from resorting to bad life again after release.

Third Member of Council.—They are taught some profession in the Jails.

Mr. Ramachandra Rao Sindhe.—It is not exactly so. Convicts who know a profession are given the work that they know. Others who do not know and particular profession are not specially trained in any art.

Mr. Gopalaswami Iyer.—There is another matter connected with this. For instance, very good carpets are made in the Central Jail with the labour of convicts. But nowhere do the convicts after release engage themselves in the profession. This shows that they are not trained systematically. Similarly, most people can be trained in horticulture and agriculture. This is not done.

Again, the convicts work the whole day in and outside the prison. They must be paid their wages after deducting their feeding expenses. Prison labour is cheap just at present for obvious reasons. Their wages are not properly computed for payment after their release. Something is of course paid but it is not commensurate with the services they have rendered The amount of the wages due to them should be funded and returned to them after release with which money they can start some industry they have learnt in prison.

Mr. C. Subba Rao.—The only defect in the above proposal would be that if the amount of wages is funded as suggested, there is no doubt that the number of prisoners will increase.

Third Member of Council.—Noted. The question is being examined.

PROTECTION—(AMRUT MAHAL.)

(No. 97.)

SUBJECT No. 97.

Amrit Mahal Kaval Lands.

Mr. B. N. Vijaya Deva, Vokkaligara Sangha, Bangalore.

In many parts of the State, very few acres of *gomal* lands are set apart for communal purposes. There are large tracts of Amrit Mahal Kaval lands not required by the Department; such lands may be handed over to the Revenue Department for being granted to ryots an easy terms either on lease or for rent.

Third Member of Council.—Is being done gradually.